

REPORT.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
April 1st, 1841.

566 copies ordered to be printed.

The committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the constitutional rights of slaveholders, and the case of Bemis and others, pending in the Supreme Court of the United States, with the documents, beg leave to submit the following report:

The case against Bemis and others for a supposed violation of the laws of Pennsylvania by the re-capture of fugitive slaves, is pending in the Supreme Court on an appeal from a Court in Pennsylvania, carried up by an arrangement heretofore made by the two States. Your committee have every confidence that that cause will be decided according to the constitution and laws, and that justice will be done in the premises; they therefore recommend that no action be had by the authorities of Maryland while the case is undecided.

Your committee also report that the other branch of the enquiry relates, as appears by the documents accompanying the order of reference, to a controversy at this time pending between the States of Virginia and New York, and as it involves questions of the gravest character to all the States, the committee beg leave to submit their views at length.

It appears from the documents before the committee, "that the Executive of Virginia made a demand upon the Governor of New York for the surrender of Peter Johnson, Edward Smith and Isaac Gansey, attached to the schooner Robert Center,